

Damage to Blast Furnaces of Rourkela Steel Plant

7159. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to State:

(a) whether the blast furnaces at Rourkela Steel Plant have been damaged;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken or proposed to be taken against those found guilty;

(c) whether there is any proposal for the installation of the fourth blast furnace there; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) In Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) on 6th June, 1991 in blast furnace No. 4 there was a hearth break out. Subsequently, it has been in operation since 10th June, 1991.

(b) M/s. Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants India Limited (MECON) who were entrusted the task of assessing the reasons have in their report brought out 'design "deficiency" as the cause for the hearth break out, and have suggested corrective action. As the hearth break out occurred due to inherent design deficiencies, the question of taking action against any persons did not arise.

(c) and (d). There already exist four blast furnaces at Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP). However, RSP. are considering to instal a

fifth blast furnace as a long term strategy during the IXth or Xth Five Year Plan period.

Akashwani Kendras

7160. SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:

SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Akashwani Kendras in the country at present, capacity-wise and location-wise;

(b) the number of Akashwani kendras preparing their own programmes; and

(c) the number of kendras proposed to be set up during the Eighth Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) There are 128 Akashwani Kendras in the country. The details are given in the attached Statement.

(b) All AIR Stations except relay stations at Alleppey and Ajmer originate and produce their own programmes.

(c) The Eighth Plan of AIR is yet to be approved, However, 84 broadcasting centres with studios at appropriate places have been proposed in the Eighth Plan.